

**Environmental Justice Grant
High Country Conservation Center**

I. Project Title and Project Purpose Statement

Project Title: Summit County Energy Justice Initiative.

Project Goal:

The goal of this initiative is to improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality in homes for low-income Summit County residents. The project will reduce utility bills and improve the health of Summit County's underserved, predominantly Hispanic, population. By providing free energy audit services, education, quick fix items and other weatherization upgrades, this project will alleviate the high costs of utility bills for low income residents. Summit County Energy Justice Initiative will target neighborhoods where residents pay disproportionately more for the costs of heating their homes. It will also address health and safety hazards of poorly operating mechanical equipment and other indoor air quality concerns. With this initiative High Country Conservation Center plans to do the following:

- 1.) Conduct 25 home energy audits while helping homeowners install 25 quick fix kits, resulting in immediate comfort, safety and energy efficiency improvements. Quick fix kits include programmable thermostats, hot water heater blankets, LED bulbs, weather stripping and caulk. Quick fix savings will result in approximately 10% energy savings in each home.
- 2.) Train one bilingual intern from Colorado Mountain College to conduct home visits after earning Building Professional Institute's Building Science Principles certification.
- 3.) Host three energy efficiency workshops for homeowners.
- 4.) Weatherize five homes for qualified low-income homeowners.

Location:

The project will be implemented throughout Summit County, Colorado, which includes zip codes 80498, 80497, 80435, 80424 and 80443. Summit County is located in the heart of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, approximately 75 miles west of Denver. Most homes in Summit County are at elevations greater than 8,700 feet. The annual average temperature is 38 degrees Fahrenheit, while the average snowfall is 155 inches per year with some areas receiving up to 280 inches per year. Summit County's severely cold climate, combined with an older housing stock, contributes to high energy costs.

Statute Alignment:

The Summit County Energy Justice Initiative will address the needs of underserved populations in Summit County while reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. This project supports work towards the ***Clean Air Act***, Section 103 (b)(3), by specifically conducting prevention and control of air pollution.

Climate Resiliency:

Making homes safer, more comfortable and more energy efficient reduces the amount of fossil fuels used to heat homes and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. As climate change creates more extreme weather patterns, it is of utmost importance to increase the energy efficiency of homes and buildings. Weatherizing homes of low-income residents will help these vulnerable communities better adapt to the effects of climate change as heating costs continue to rise.

II. Environmental, Public Health and Community Climate Resiliency (if applicable) information about the affected community.

Project Benefits and Affected Community

HC3 currently offers residential energy audits through our Energy Smart Colorado program. However, we have found that the \$100 cost of the audit is a barrier to low income residents. Typical homeowners who sign up for the program are either second homeowners or year-round residents with higher income. Through the Summit County Energy Justice initiative, our audits will be available free of charge for low income residents of Summit County.

Low income and minority residents in our community face the challenge of high cost of living coupled with expensive energy bills. The money spent on trying to sufficiently heat their home reduces their ability to afford other basic needs such as food, health insurance, rent or mortgage payments, and transportation costs. In fact, Summit County has the highest uninsured population in Colorado. This project will mitigate these challenges by easing the burden of high energy consumption and its associated negative effects. Specifically, the project will address poorly-insulated and unsafe housing. Not only are low-income residents paying disproportionately more for their power bills, but these residents are often exposed to indoor air pollution. Specific indoor air quality issues include carbon monoxide, mold and mildew, and radon exposure.

The Summit County Energy Justice Initiative will empower underserved communities to reduce potential health hazards in their home and substantially reduce their heating bills. This will better prepare low-income homeowners in our community for the effects of climate change, as more extreme weather patterns are expected along with increasing utility costs.

We have identified specific neighborhoods in Summit County comprised of older, poorly insulated single-family homes, mobile homes and multi-family units built before energy efficiency building codes were required. These neighborhoods consist primarily of underserved residents, predominantly Hispanic and other minority groups. As a result of the Summit County Energy Justice Initiative, these residents will become more knowledgeable and better adapted to withstand the effects of climate change. The program will serve both low-income homeowners and tenants who pay for their own utility bills.

Summit County is a mountain resort community with a population of roughly 28,637, of which 14.2% are Hispanic or Latino. The percentage of residents below the poverty level is 11.8%. The

cost of living in Summit County is the 3rd highest in the state, according to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Typical of resort communities, employment is often seasonal and dependent upon tourism which varies from year to year.

Summit County has the seventh highest heating cost index in Colorado. Thus, utility costs are often a larger burden for low-income residents compared to other residents. Existing energy assistance programs fail to adequately meet the needs of disadvantaged groups in our community. Last year, only 83 individuals applied for LEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) in Summit County. Furthermore, an average of only eight Summit County homes are weatherized per year through the free weatherization program for very low-income residents offered by the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG). Considering over 3,300 residents fall below the poverty line in Summit County, many more individuals qualified for these programs who did not apply. After speaking with organizations who refer homeowners to these programs, we have come to the conclusion that a language barrier is a significant reason as to why these numbers are so low. Our program will educate Hispanic homeowners in Spanish, so they will be empowered to take on energy efficiency and conservation measures in their homes.

As fuel costs continue to rise, low-income residents in Summit County will continue to be disproportionately affected. This will create a greater burden on homeowners who are already struggling to pay their utility bills. Inefficient and poorly operating mechanical equipment (like furnaces, boilers and hot water heaters) can also present serious safety hazards for occupants. Poorly operating equipment may result in excessive carbon monoxide exposure, and moisture issues resulting from improper air sealing. The Summit County Energy Justice Initiative will benefit resident participants by providing more comfortable, safe and energy efficient homes, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Project Summary

HC3 will hire and train a bilingual Colorado Mountain College student intern to assist in translation of audits and workshops. HC3 energy auditors will conduct energy audits and identify poor indoor air quality health issues, comfort concerns, and address any other energy related issues for the homeowner. The auditor will then install quick fix items and other measures to provide immediate results for the homeowner. Quick fix kits include programmable thermostats, hot water heater blankets, LED bulbs, weather stripping and caulk. For five qualified homeowners, we will provide weatherization work from certified home performance contractors. In addition to the hands-on work in homes, we will also provide energy efficiency workshops to low-income residents in both Spanish and English.

Throughout the project, homeowners and tenants will be engaged in the process. During the energy audit, education will be provided to homeowners on basic building science principles, behavioral patterns, and efficiency measures they can implement to reduce their energy consumption and hence their overall carbon footprint. The workshops will also provide information that allows low-income residents to implement energy-saving measures in their homes.

III. Organization's Historical Connection to the Affected Community

High Country Conservation Center's (HC3) mission is to provide practical solutions for waste reduction and resource conservation in our mountain community. HC3's programs include energy efficiency, waste reduction and sustainable food production – including overseeing five community gardens. In 2011, we started the Grow to Share food donation program to provide low-income families with locally grown, organic produce. The food is donated from our community gardens and our CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program. In 2014 we donated food to 234 families in need. Additionally, HC3 has achieved Energy Star certifications since 2011 for 80 homes in three affordable housing neighborhoods. These Energy Star certifications have resulted in approximately \$28,000 in annual savings for residents in affordable housing projects, allowing homeowners to save on their monthly utility bills and reducing carbon emissions.

HC3 has also developed key partnerships with local organizations that serve low-income and minority residents. HC3 works with the Summit Combined Housing Authority to provide Energy Star certifications for affordable housing neighborhoods in Summit County. HC3 also partners with Women Infants and Children (WIC) and the Family Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC) to provide donated food and nutrition education through our Grow to Share food donation program.

Families who receive food through the food donation program have the option to participate in growing produce in our gardens. We also provide workshops that teach participants the value of healthy eating, as well as teach them how to cook and preserve the food they receive. Through the food donation program, the community enjoys organic, locally grown produce with a high nutritional value. By growing food locally, this also reduces greenhouse gases by decreasing the miles in which food is transported. HC3 plans to continue the Grow to Share donation program for many years to come.

In addition, Summit County has recently adopted stricter building codes. Therefore, affordable housing developments will be built with more stringent energy efficiency standards. HC3 remains involved in creating energy efficient affordable housing units, enabling low-income residents to save money on their power bills. Money saved on power bills allows these homeowners to spend money on food, transportation and other needs. Once affordable housing units are completed, HC3 also works directly with homeowners to educate them on ways to save energy and keep their homes safe.

Our Summit County Environmental Justice Initiative will directly engage low-income residents through involving them in energy saving and indoor air quality decisions. HC3's certified energy auditor will discuss safety and energy efficiency recommendations with each homeowner. Once HC3's staff or intern completes the audit, the resident will have the option to install quick fix items with the guidance of the auditor. This will empower homeowners to make their home warmer, safer and understand how to change behavior to save energy in the future. Quick fix

items include caulk, weather stripping, hot water heater blankets and LED bulbs. HC3 plans to continue the Summit County Environmental Justice Initiative after the one-year grant period ends. HC3 will track energy savings from the 25 homes audited and will continue to offer bilingual energy efficiency and home safety workshops to Summit County's low-income residents.

IV. Project Description

Project Goals and Details:

The Summit County Energy Justice Initiative will empower underserved Summit County residents to save energy and money on their utility bills. This will result in safer, more comfortable and energy efficient homes for homeowners who currently do not benefit from the existing energy assistance and weatherization programs. The program will also result in lower greenhouse gas emissions and a smaller carbon footprint for the community.

The program will complete accomplish the following:

- Complete 25 home energy audits in both Spanish and English for qualified low-income residents.
- Installation of quick fix items in 25 homes. Items include programmable thermostats, weather stripping materials, caulking, LED light bulbs and hot water heater blankets.
- Weatherization of five low income home-owner units. Examples of weatherization include increased insulation and air sealing, or new mechanical equipment (like a furnace or boiler).

During the audit, we will educate residents by explaining identified challenges and demonstrating how to fix these issues. Homeowners will have the option of participating directly in the quick fixes, or having HC3 staff complete quick fix installations. We will also document any health and safety hazards discovered during the audit. Common health hazards include unsafe carbon monoxide levels, typically caused from improperly vented furnaces, boilers or hot water heaters. From a public health perspective, this will be important so we can resolve any safety issues and document the number of hazards mitigated. We will also track overall savings in kilowatt hours, carbon emissions and dollars. Finally, HC3 will offer bilingual (Spanish and English) coaching and educational opportunities for families wishing to reduce their utility bills and energy consumption.

This initiative will strengthen the community's ability to understand the importance of energy efficiency and conservation measures not only in their homes but in their daily activities. In addition to working directly in 25 homes, we will provide three different workshops in Spanish and English that cover the following:

- 1.) The basics of energy efficiency and conservation in the home and elsewhere.
- 2.) Weather stripping and caulking.
- 3.) Benefits of LED bulbs, programmable thermostats, and basic insulation measures of exposed pipes and water heaters.

By offering energy audits and homeowner workshops in Spanish, we will reach homeowners in our community who would otherwise not benefit from the program. The educational workshops, combined with energy audits and weatherization upgrades, will result in safer, more comfortable, and energy efficient homes for our community's underserved residents.

Project's Support of Clean Air Act Statute

The program will reduce fossil fuel consumption by helping homeowners make their homes tighter and less leaky, resulting in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore the program covers efforts under the 4) **Clean Air Act**, Section 103 (b)(3) through pollution control and prevention measures. The **Clean Air Act**, Section 103 (b)(3) calls for the environment to be protected through *conducting prevention and control of air pollution*. Residential energy use contributes to a significant amount of air pollution through the burning of fossil fuels such as natural gas, coal, and oil. For every kilowatt hour used in Summit County, 1.6 pounds of carbon is released into the earth's atmosphere (Xcel Energy, 2010). Lower-income persons tend to be adversely affected by the health and economic impacts of air pollution to a disproportionate degree. The Environmental Justice dimension of this project recognizes the link between air pollution, global climate change, and the most vulnerable of our community's residents.

Organizational Commitment and Key Partnerships:

The High Country Conservation Center (HC3) is a 501c3 nonprofit that has served Summit County for more than 35 years. HC3's current programs include recycling and composting, energy efficiency, sustainable food production and sustainable business programs. HC3's qualifications are detailed in the following section. HC3 is committed to improving the lives of underserved residents by improving home indoor air quality and reducing heating bill costs. If we receive funding through the EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, this would enable us to initiate the program. Because we are committed to long-term support of low-income residents, we will continue to pursue other sources of funding as well as establish and expand partnerships supporting this goal.

The Family Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC) and the Summit Combined Housing Authority will be our two primary partners in this initiative. The FIRC works closely with the affected community we wish to serve. They provide new parent education through classes, home visits and family events. The FIRC has a food bank that provides food to families in need and other assistance programs providing families with obtaining medical insurance, foreclosure counseling, and emergency assistance. The FIRC has agreed to promote the Summit County Energy Justice program and help facilitate homeowner energy efficiency workshops. The Summit Combined Housing Authority helps low-income residents obtain affordable housing, assists with landlord – tenant matters, and teaches homebuyer classes. The Summit Combined Housing Authority has also agreed to promote the program to their clients.

Both the FIRC and the Summit Combined Housing Authority are local non-profits who are currently addressing the needs of low-income residents in Summit County. In addition to HC3

staff, these two organizations have fluent Spanish speakers who can communicate the benefits of home energy efficiency and conservation. They work with and are familiar with the affected community. Both the FIRC and Housing Authority have committed to in-kind staff support of the Summit Environmental Justice Initiative.

An additional partner will be Northwest Colorado Council of Governments mentioned previously in this grant. They have expressed their interest in supporting and partnering with HC3's Summit County Energy Justice Initiative. This program would provide an additional resource for their clients and for those who cannot access their weatherization program, since it is aimed at residents with very low income levels. HC3 also intends to direct clients who qualify for weatherization through NCCOG to their energy management team. In this way, this partnership would be mutually beneficial for both our organizations.

The partnership between HC3, FIRC, the Housing Authority and NWCCOG will allow the program to maximize participation of low-income residents. The program will also increase our community's ability to make low-income homes safer and more energy efficient. Through educating FIRC and Housing Authority staff, these entities will be able to refer homeowners to the HC3 program. All organizations can also help refer clients to the appropriate resources to fix home safety hazards discovered during the audit.

In summary, this initiative will engage local expertise and residents to make their homes safer and energy efficient, while also reducing their power bills and greenhouse gas emissions.

Project Timeline

September 2015	Recruit and train intern. Distribute marketing materials to both the FIRC and Summit Combined Housing Authority. Promote the program in local newspaper and radio stations. Disburse flyers in targeted neighborhoods. Advertise homeowner workshops and energy audits.
October – December 2015	Begin conducting energy audits and quick fixes for homeowners. Begin tracking safety hazards discovered from the audits and refer homeowners to appropriate resources to fix issues. Host two homeowner workshops.
January – March 2016	Continue advertising campaign. Complete at least 10 audits by the end of December. Start tracking the savings in carbon emissions and dollars for homeowners. Begin recruiting homeowners for weatherization work through homeowner application.
March - May 2016	Host final homeowner workshop. Choose five homes for weatherization work and begin scheduling with the contractors.
May – August 2016	Complete remaining audits and weatherization. Continue tracking savings in carbon emissions and dollars saved for the homeowner.
August 2016	Compile data: # of homes with safety hazards mitigated, # of homeowners who attended the workshops and their feedback, total

	amount of carbon emissions and dollars saved from quick fix installations and weatherization.
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V. Organizational Capacity and Programmatic Capability

The High Country Conservation Center (HC3) was founded as a recycling organization in 1976. HC3's current programs include recycling and composting, energy efficiency, sustainable food production and sustainable business certification programs. HC3 currently employs five full-time employees and is funded from diverse sources including fee-for-service programs, municipal funding, grants, events and individual donations.

HC3 initiated its energy programs in 2006, and two employees are dedicated to providing energy efficiency services. HC3's Energy Programs provide homeowner and small business energy audits, as well as home energy rating scores and Energy Smart certifications. HC3's Energy Programs Manager and Energy Programs Coordinator are both BPI Certified Building Analysts, the industry standard for energy auditor certification. Additional Energy Programs staff qualifications are detailed below in the Project Manager section.

HC3 regularly manages significant funding income, including funding from local towns and County government totaling more \$150,000 annually for the past three years. Our annual operating budget is approximately \$400,000. HC3 has also managed several government grants in the past five years. HC3 was awarded a \$57,500 USDA Solid Waste grant for the period September 30, 2013 to January 31, 2015. HC3 is nearing completion on the USDA grant and has achieved all grant deliverables to date. The USDA grant was awarded to increase sales and marketing of Summit County's commercial compost product, because more product was being produced than was being sold. All USDA quarterly reports have been submitted on time, and HC3's efforts have already increased compost sales by 90%.

In addition, HC3 was awarded several grants through the Colorado Governor's Energy Office (CEO) from 2010 through 2012. Funding from the CEO originated from the Department of Energy through the ARRA stimulus package. The largest CEO grant was a \$150,000 three-year grant that funded a Community Energy Coordinator position with HC3. Since this grant ended in 2012, HC3 has secured funding to keep this position at the organization. CEO also awarded HC3 \$15,000 to promote "Main Street" small business sustainability in our community and two adjacent counties. Finally, GEO granted HC3 approximately \$15,000 to promote the EPA's Energy Star for New Homes program. All GEO grants required significant reporting, typically monthly. All reports were submitted on time and all deliverables were met.

HC3 has organizational systems in place to effectively manage federal government grants. HC3 uses Quickbooks for bookkeeping, allowing us to accurately track all grant-related expenses. HC3's executive director, Jennifer Schenk, has more than 15 years of management experience in both the nonprofit and private industry sectors. HC3 staff also has project management expertise, with systems in place to track milestones and key deliverables for all of our

programs. Specifically, we use Sales Force to track energy participants and measurable results. HC3 is governed by a Board of Directors and completes third-party financial audits annually.

VI. Qualifications of Project Manager

Kevin Berg, Project Manager

Kevin Berg, HC3's Energy Programs Manager, will serve as the Project Manager. Mr. Berg has B.S. in Ecology, and is a certified RESNET Rater and BPI Building Analyst. As a 17-year Summit County resident, Mr. Berg is vested in our community. Mr. Berg's responsibilities include managing our sustainable business programs, conducting home and business energy audits, completing home energy ratings and advancing local sustainable building codes. During his time at HC3, Mr. Berg's biggest accomplishment has been launching and overseeing the new Energy Smart Colorado program in Summit County. The Energy Smart program is a region-wide initiative aimed at reducing residential energy usage and creating local jobs in the energy efficiency industry. Summit County joined the Energy Smart program in 2014, with aggressive goals to complete 120 audits, 48 weatherization projects and generate \$400,000 for local energy auditors and home performance contractors. All goals were achieved in 2014. Mr. Berg also tracks program results in Sales Force, including energy saved, carbon emission reductions, homeowner project cost and contractor revenue generated. Mr. Berg is responsible for managing more than \$100,000 in annual income from local municipalities, with quarterly results reporting required to each funder.

Prior to working with HC3, Mr. Berg was a recycling manager for 15 years. As Summit County Government's Recycling Manager, Mr. Berg managed a recycling operation including a Materials Recovery Facility plant and five public recycling drop centers. He was responsible for a \$400,000 operating budget and assisted in the management of several grants, including funding from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's RREO Recycling Grant Program that allowed for the capital purchase of equipment to expand recycling and compost operations.

Marty James, Project Coordinator

Marty James, HC3's Energy Programs Coordinator, will serve as the project coordinator on this initiative. Ms. James has a B.A. in Spanish and lived in Mexico for a year, enabling her to become fluent in Spanish. She also obtained her M.A. in Sustainable Communities and is a certified energy auditor through BPI's Building Analyst program. Ms. James' current responsibilities include coordinating the Energy Smart program, conducting sustainability audits for local businesses, conducting energy workshops, and bookkeeping for the organization. Her Energy Smart program responsibilities include one-on-one coaching of homeowners, including guiding them through their audit recommendations and helping them select a qualified contractor to complete energy efficiency upgrades.

VII. Past Performance in Reporting on Outputs and Outcomes

As noted above, HC3 was awarded a \$57,500 USDA Solid Waste grant for the period September 30, 2013 to January 31, 2015. In addition, the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) awarded HC3 a \$150,000 grant from 2010 through 2012. Funding from the CEO originated from the Department of Energy through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The USDA grant was awarded through the USDA's Rural Development Solid Waste grants program. Specifically, HC3 was awarded a grant to increase our County's compost sales. We have a commercial compost facility that has been producing far more compost product than we've been able to sell. Since the inception of the grant, we've increased compost sales by 90%. Our USDA grant outlined seven actions under the following three goals: to develop compost end markets, to decrease contamination of our compost product and to increase awareness of our product. The USDA requires quarterly reporting on our progress towards each goal. All grant deliverables have been met to date.

USDA Grant Information

- Project Name: From Production to Market: Closing the Loop with Community Compost
- Amount: \$57,500. Grant Period: 9/30/13 to 1/31/15.
- Point of Contact: David Carter at the USDA Rural Development's Delta, Colorado office. Email is dave.carter@co.usda.gov and phone is 970-874-5735 ext. 124.
- CFDA #: 10.760. USDA Contract: High Country Conservation Center-01

For our Colorado Energy Office grant, the grant was awarded to create a Community Energy Coordinator position, with responsibilities including creating Community Energy Plans for Summit, Lake and Park Counties. This grant required monthly reporting to the CEO on our progress toward specified goals and on jobs created as a result of the grant. All grant deliverables were met, and all reports were submitted on time.

Colorado Energy Office Grant Information (formerly called Governor's Energy Office)

- Project Name: Community Energy Coordinator
- Amount: \$150,000. Grant Period: 4/1/10 to 7/31/12.
- Contact: Our grant contact, Angie Fyfe, is no longer with the CEO. Another CEO contact is Peter Rusin. Peter worked with HC3 on several smaller grant during this period. peter.rusin@state.co.us or 303-866-2343.
- Contract Number: C9000658 (DOE Award to Governor's Energy Office: DEEE0000913)

As detailed in Section VI, HC3 has the capacity and systems in place to manage federal grants. We have met all deliverables and reporting requirements for all previous federal grants.

VIII. Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Information

This project will not use existing environmental data or collect new data.

High Country Conservation Center Attachments

- **Budget Detail and Narrative**
- **Project Manager Resumes**
- **Letters of Support**
- **Performance Measures Logic Models**

Additional attachments not included in this document, but included in our grants.gov “Other Mandatory Attachments” include:

- Threshold Eligibility Form
- QAAP
- Proof of Nonprofit Status

**High Country Conservation Center
Summit County Energy Justice Initiative Budget**

Personnel	Project Manager @ \$44,970 x .15 FTE = \$6,700	
	Project Coordinator @ \$38,940 x .13 FTE = \$5,000	\$11,700
Fringe	Project Manager (24.5% of salary (includes health insurance, IRA, payroll taxes) = \$1642	
	Project Coordinator (26.3% of salary (includes health insurance, IRA, payroll taxes) = \$1315	\$2,957
Travel	BPI Building Sciences Training for Intern = \$380	
	EnergyLogic Rater Days Conference for one auditor = \$450	\$1,362
	Mileage to conduct audits, outreach, training & conference (750 mi x \$.56/mi) = \$532	
Supplies	Quick fix items, \$200/home x 25 homes = \$2,500	\$11,000
	Advertising, brochures, workshops = \$1,000	
	Resident rebates 25 x \$100 = \$2,500	
	Weatherization 5 x \$500/hrs = \$5,000	
Contract Labor	Intern, 115 hours	\$1,500
Indirect Costs	10% of salary and fringe	\$1,466
Total Costs		\$29,985

Budget Description

Personnel

Project Manager - Energy Programs Manager, Kevin Berg, will be responsible for project deliverables including audit completion, quick-fix management and intern training, outreach and education, and overall grant management.

Project Coordinator - Energy Programs Coordinator, Marty James, will be responsible for serving as the primary liaison to community nonprofit partners and communicating with Spanish-speaking residents. Marty will also coordinate outreach and education efforts, including conducting all workshops.

High Country Conservation Center Budget – Continued

Fringe

Fringe includes all payroll taxes (approximately 10% of salary), IRA at 3% of salary and health Insurance/long term disability insurance at \$400/month.

Travel

Mileage is covered at the 2014 IRS rate of \$.56/mile. Mileage for 30 audits x 20 miles = 600 miles. 150 miles for Denver conference. Training for intern includes books and online testing for BPI Building Science Principles Training. EnergyLogic Conference is for HC3 auditor to attend.

Supplies

Quick fix supplies for each home include programmable thermostat, LED light bulbs, weather stripping, caulk and hot water heater blankets.

Weatherization projects will be specific to each home's needs but may include adding insulation, air sealing or fixing furnaces.

Rebates will be granted to every homeowner or tenant, so that the audit cost will be free. Typical audits cost \$350, with Xcel Energy rebating \$200 and Summit County rebating \$50, leaving homeowners with a \$100 cost. This cost will be covered for program participants.

Outreach materials include workshop costs, advertising in local paper or radio, printing and design costs for promotional flyers or postcards.

Contract Labor

A Colorado Mountain College intern will help conduct outreach and assist homeowners/tenants with quick fix installation. Intern will speak Spanish and English.

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are 10% and include organizational costs such as rent, utilities, insurance, professional affiliations, web-services.

Kevin Berg

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970-389-1428

Professional Experience

High Country Conservation Center, Frisco CO (b) (6)

Energy Operations Manager

- Responsible for the oversight of residential energy efficiency program, Energy Smart Colorado.
 - Responsible for tracking and reporting program result and metrics.
 - Oversight of program budget and fundraising.
 - Perform home energy audits as well as home owner education.
- Oversee Organization's Sustainable Business Programs.
 - Provide energy assessments for participating businesses.
 - Facilitate appropriate ener4gy improvement projects with business owners.
 - Calculate and communicate project savings and results.
- Responsible for energy programs outreach and education.
- Point Person for Summit Sustainable Building Checklist.
- Perform *RESNET* Home Energy Ratings.

Summit County Government, Breckenridge CO (b) (6)

Recycling Operations Supervisor

- Overseeing a staff of 8 employees and an expense budget of nearly \$1M, managed Summit County's Materials Recovery Facility and supervised all County recycling operations, including local drop-off centers and curb-side collection program.
- Developed and implemented community waste reduction programs.
 - Key programs included: Cafeteria composting program for all Summit School District schools, commercial compost collection program, and commercial business recycling program.
- Designed and administered tracking and reporting systems for ongoing measurement of the County's waste volumes and waste diversion rates.
- Coordinated with recycling commodity brokers to find the highest revenues while ensuring environmental stewardship in processing.
- Worked collaboratively with local government officials to develop Summit County Zero Waste policies.
- Organized and executed Community Zero Waste Events.
 - Collaborated with local municipalities to develop and implement Zero Waste Event Strategies.
 - Supervised logistics for large scale events ranging from 150 to 30,000 attendees.
 - Coordinated with event organizers to develop Zero Waste strategies involving every aspect of the waste stream, from vendor product choices all the way to disposal.
- Conducted educational tours and community outreach for the County Recycling Facility.

Summit Recycling Project, Frisco CO (b) (6)

Recycling Operations Manager

- Managed non-profit recycling operations, including two local drop-off centers, community collection program, commodity sales and transportation of recyclable materials to market. Supervised a recycling staff of five employees.
- Implemented strategic changes in recycling operations to maximize commodity revenues.
- Integrated programmatic changes to increase recycling volumes.
- Developed and managed the non-profit organization's annual operating budget.
- Responsible for fundraising, community outreach and education.

Vail Resorts/Breckenridge Ski Resort, Breckenridge CO (b) (6)

Environmental Coordinator

- Oversaw and implemented company recycling programs.
- Responsible for budget oversight and performance.
- Implemented data tracking to monitor and report waste diversion and disposal metrics company-wide.
- Significantly reduced company waste disposal expenses as a result of waste diversion metrics achieved.
- Responsible for new employee education on company sustainability programs.
- Implemented company-wide reuse program to benefit multicultural employee base.

Education

(b) Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA
Bachelor of Science, Biology/Ecology

(b) Energy Logic Training Academy, Berthoud, CO
RESNET HERS Rater Certification

Building Professional Institute
Building Analyst Certification

Knowledge and Skills Summary

- Unique understanding and experience handling the full spectrum of community waste management activities, ranging from developing solutions to comprehensive waste policy challenges to managing the details of day-to-day waste operations.
- Broad knowledge of recycling, compost and landfill operations.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications, including Word, Excel & PowerPoint.

Community Involvement

2011-2014 **US Pro Cycling Challenge Local Organizing Committee**

Member

- Served as Sustainability Chair to manage event sustainability efforts, 2012-2013.
- Implemented Zero Waste efforts to achieve 70% waste diversion rate for 2011 and 2012 events.
- Managed and educated Zero Waste volunteers during events.

Martha Ellen James Johnson



(b) (6)

EDUCATION

Building Professional Institute

Building Analyst Certification

Northern Arizona University - Flagstaff, AZ

(b) (6) Master of Arts – Sustainable Communities (with distinction)

University of North Texas - Denton, TX

(b) (6) Bachelor of Arts – Spanish (*cum laude*)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Energy Programs Coordinator | High Country Conservation Center

(b) (6)

For the conservation center, I assist the Energy Operations Manager and Executive Director with coordinating HC3's residential energy efficiency program. I work directly with local businesses to implement sustainable practices. Another key role of my position is to provide administrative, bookkeeping and marketing support for the organization's programs.

Academic Advisor/ Transition Success Coach | Northern Arizona University

(b) (6)

I worked directly with students to help them navigate the University system and prepare themselves for success at school and in their transition to the workforce. Working within a team, we provided outstanding customer service to students at all levels and online.

Forestry Technician | The United States Forest Service

(b) (6)

For the Forest Service, I was a Certified Type II Wildland Firefighter. I became trained and experienced in fire suppression and ignitions. During fire and burn season, my crew and I monitored and held numerous managed fires.

Administrative Specialist | Coconino County Health Department

(b) (6)

In an office setting, I performed general clerical work in support of Administration and the Birth Certificate Program. Additionally, I developed public awareness materials and implemented campaigns advertising Maternal and Child Health services and messages.

Crew Leader | Coconino Rural Environment Corps

(b) (6)

As crew leader, I collaborated with the crew supervisor in order to make crew and work decisions. I provided instruction and advice to crewmembers on construction of trails, chain saw maintenance, fencing, and tool use.



P.O. Box 1636 251 W. 4th Street Silverthorne, CO 80498
P 970-262-3888 F 970-513-1167 www.SummitFIRC.org

12/8/2014

Environmental Protection Agency
Environmental Justice Small Grants

Dear EPA Grants Committee,

I would like to express our support for High Country Conservation Center's Energy Justice Initiative. The Family and Intercultural Resource Center is a local provider of emergency utility assistance funds and frequently prevent local low-income households from having their heat shut off. This is an essential, potentially life-saving service in such a cold climate as ours; however, it is a short-term solution and does not reduce energy costs on an ongoing basis.

The project proposed by HC3 would provide Summit residents with long-term energy efficiency solutions, assuring family comfort and safety and stretching limited household budgets through reduced energy use and cost.

Low to moderate income households often lack information about, and access to, energy efficiency improvements that will reduce expenses and energy usage in their homes. HC3's project will help bring the benefits of a more energy efficient home to many of these households. The Family and Intercultural Resource Center serves local low and moderate income families through a variety of family-oriented services, and high household energy costs are a frequent barrier to safety and stability for many of those with whom we work. We look forward to the opportunity to partner with HC3 to better serve those families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Murphy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert Murphy, MSW

Assistant Director

Family and Intercultural Resource Center

970-262-3888 x 322

robertm@summitfirc.org



**MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS**

City of Glenwood
Springs

City of Steamboat
Springs

Town of Carbondale

EAGLE COUNTY

Basalt
Eagle
Gypsum
Minturn
Red Cliff
Vail

GRAND COUNTY

Fraser
Granby
Grand Lake
Hot Sulphur Springs
Kremmling
Winter Park

JACKSON COUNTY

Walden

PITKIN COUNTY

Aspen
Snowmass Village

SUMMIT COUNTY

Dillon
Frisco
Montezuma
Silverthorne

December 12, 2014

Environmental Protection Agency
Environmental Justice Small Grants

Dear EPA Grants Committee,

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) is a voluntary association of county and municipal governments that believes in the benefits of working together on a regional basis. Our Weatherization Program is active in 13 counties in Northwest Colorado and helps low-income Coloradans whose household income is at or below 200% of the Federal poverty guidelines by reducing their energy consumption while improving health and safety problems we discover in the course of our work.

I would like to express NWCCOG's support for High Country Conservation Center's Energy Justice Initiative. In the course of our work with residents of Summit County, we have seen the impact of inefficient housing on those who can least afford it. In our climate, a warm and affordable home is paramount to the health and wellbeing of our clients.

As an organization, we are pleased to work with the High Country Conservation Center to make energy efficiency services and resources accessible to our clients. The Energy Management Team of the Federal Government's LEAP program plans to coordinate with the High Country Conservation Center to ensure that those clients who cannot access our program receive the benefits of the Energy Justice Initiative.

We are excited about the potential of working with the High Country Conservation Center on this initiative. In order to assist our clients in obtaining energy efficient upgrades to their homes, we are always seeking additional resources for our clients. We believe this initiative will benefit greatly the residents of our community by creating practical pathways to energy equity.

Thank you for consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Liz Mullen
Executive Director



December 18, 2014

Environmental Protection Agency
Environmental Justice Small Grants

Dear EPA Grants Committee:

The Summit Combined Housing Authority (SCHA) is a multi-jurisdictional agency in Summit County serving local employees and low- to moderate-income households with affordable housing programs. We frequently work in tandem with the programs and services offered by other non-profit agencies in the county that offer assistance to residents who have difficulty affording livable situations.

We strongly support the High Country Conservation Center's Energy Justice Initiative, and have already devised methods to collaborate with them to offer their energy audits to owners of older, affordable, deed-restricted homes in the county.

With wages insufficient for most locals to afford the area median home price, and the extremely limited supply of decent, affordable housing in our resort community, many of our local workforce are restricted to purchasing or renting older, inefficient residences. Saving enough money to pay for energy audits – a simple tool that can help a household learn how to save dollars every month – is a luxury many just can't manage. The SCHA, by working with H3C, is willing to assist deed-restricted owners with this cost.

We appreciate your consideration of the H3C proposal as we know it will allow us to better serve our local residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Kermode".

Jennifer Kermode
Executive Director

"Growing our community one household at a time..."

Summit County Energy Justice Initiative

Performance Measures Logic Model

Assisting and Educating Low-Income Homeowners to Save Energy and Money on Utilities

